

A<sup>1</sup>  
on the surface of the support body has been formed a ceramic filter membrane 4. The membrane has been formed from e.g., titanium or zirconium oxide. The central bores 2 of the plates form a permeate channel 6; in the embodiment shown, a perforated tube 5 is provided therein. The joints between the mating faces of the plates are sealed by means of O-rings 7.--

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On page 3, line 19, please cancel the title and substitute the new title:

--Summary of the Invention--.

On page 4, line 29, before the heading "Brief description of the drawings", please insert the paragraph:

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A<sup>2</sup>  
--Still further advantages of the present invention will become apparent to those of ordinary skill in the art upon reading and understanding the following detailed description of the preferred embodiments.--

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On page 4, line 30, ~~after the title~~ "Brief description of the drawings", please insert the paragraph:

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A<sup>3</sup>  
--The invention may take form in various components and arrangements of components, and in various steps and arrangements of steps. The drawings are only for purposes of illustrating a preferred embodiment and are not to be construed as limiting the invention.--

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On page 5, line 12, please delete the heading "Detailed description" and insert the new heading:

--Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiments--